

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
December 26, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Reverend Charles Burns Jr. - Christian Revival Center.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:

Mr. Hardaway referenced a letter submitted by Attorney John Bushemi stating his recognition as Merrillville's Town Attorney effective January 1, 2018. Mr. Bushemi commented in the letter that it's been a pleasure to serve the residents of the Town of Merrillville.

Mr. Hardaway announced the reappointment of Barbara Ghoston as representative for Stormwater Management Board for 2018 and the next 3 years.

Mrs. Barron makes a motion to appoint Peter Guip for Police Commission. The motion was seconded by Mrs. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The Town of Merrillville recognized La Carreta with a Commitment of Excellence Award for the most appealing façade for the month of December. Mr. Guernsey presented a plaque to La Carreta in recognition of this honor.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated December 26, 2017. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2017. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Minchuk had no report. Mr. Hardaway made mention of the snowfall over the weekend and cars still being parked on the streets. Code Enforcement will be out actively pursuing cars that have snow on them.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Uzelac discussed the 2018 Attorney appointment for the Town of Merrillville. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve Joe Svetanoff as Merrillville Town Attorney. Mr. Pettit seconded the motion with discussion. Discussion followed related to specific areas that the Town Attorney will handle. Mrs. Barron amended her motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Mrs. Barron had no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Barron had no report.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mr. Spann had no report.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES:

President Hardaway had no report.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

None

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 17-32: An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, amending Ordinance 17-23 and pay for employees of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana for the calendar year 2018. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

Res. 17-42: A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, authorizing a temporary loan to accommodate a shortfall. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Res. 17-43: A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, authorizing a temporary loan to fulfill monetary requirements necessary for debt service payments. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

BZA ACTIONS:

Petitioner: Taher K. Ashkar
Owner: Roseff LLC by Kin Properties Owner
Request: Special exception approval
Purpose: Proposed used car lot
Location: 6096 Broadway
Zoning: C-2, Community Commercial
Case #: Z46E20-1217
Conditions: For this petitioner only, at this location only and for this use only.
Must provide a parking lot lighting plan.

Mr. Laird read the Staff Report for the request. Information was submitted to the Town Council regarding parking lot lines. Discussion followed. Ms. LaMarca has requested time to view all information and made a motion to table request until next month. Mrs. Barron seconded the motion to table. It was noted for the record that this petitioner has been previously approved by BZA 4.0. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Town Hall offices will be closed (except for Emergency Services) at 1:00 p.m. on December 29, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. And all day on January 1, 2018 in observance of New Year's Day.

Stormwater Management Board meeting January 2, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

Plan Commission workshop meeting, January 2, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Police Commission meeting January 5, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.

Town Council meeting January 9, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Pettit made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mrs. Barron.

Richard Hardaway, President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer